

4-XII-52

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HEDDEN

SUBJECT: Proposed procedure re separations from the Agency

I have talked with Col. Edwards and with Mr. [ ] of Security about my proposal. While not opposed to it, Security has raised some questions - see attached 3 Dec. memo.

Regarding point 1, I am not convinced that consent arising from public dissemination of the policy in question would be unfavorable. I feel that a strong argument to the contrary can be advanced, i.e., that the press and Government circles could be expected to applaud the policy.

Point 2 raises a factual question which can be explored in the contemplated meeting (see below).

Point 3 supports my proposal.

The attached memo. from Security is not in the nature of a complete exposition of their views or questions, however, and it was agreed that, after Gen. Morris has studied the proposal, it would be desirable to hold a meeting including Gen. Morris and, presumably Mr. Meloon; Col. Edwards and, presumably, Mr. [ ] and, if you wish, you and me.

I today have talked with Gen. Morris and left the memo. with him. He wishes to delay a meeting until the first of next week as Mr. Meloon is on leave and will not return until Monday, 8 Dec. I have suggested [ ] asking him to inform Col. Edwards. On Monday I will remind Gen. Morris of the memo. with a view to setting up a meeting as soon in next week as practical.

3 December 1952

General Comments Concerning Notice to Disapproved Applicants

1. It is believed that wide dissemination on an unclassified basis of the policy outlined in Paragraph 2a could cause unfavorable press and general government comment concerning the elements of economy involved. This feeling is also applicable to the proposed form letter.

2. From previous discussions with Personnel, it has been informally gathered that a statement such as the second sentence in Paragraph 4 may not be factually consistent with the type of appointment presently given persons entering on duty on a provisional basis.

3. It is felt that the signature by an applicant to the effect that he or she will not make a claim or demand upon the Agency if employment is not effected may have a salutary effect which could tend to reduce the number of inquiries received by the Agency. Consideration could be given to the preparation of such a statement of understanding or agreement to be signed by the applicant without going into explanatory detail. The effectiveness of such a procedure is tempered by strong desires on the part of our citizenry to attempt to "clear their names" if they have any indication that the record may contain adverse information concerning them.